



April 13, 2005

Morning Business:

The only way to allow Senators to exercise their constitutional duty is through an up or down vote.

Floor Speaker:

Senator Chambliss

Morning Math

Bush's first term: circuit court nominations

52 nominations

35 confirmations = 67% (lowest of any president)

Noteworthy:

"I think that some of my colleagues have had some discomfort in voting against cloture"

Senator Ben Nelson, D-NE as quoted in *The Hill*, 4/13/05

"I am concerned that a partisan minority of Democrats are threatening to shut down the Senate if Republicans act to restore Senate tradition for simple majority. Their rhetoric is out of control and counterproductive." **Senator Rick Santorum**, R-PA as quoted in the *New York Times*, 4/13/05

"There's a tremendous amount of advertising which is going on. And speaking as one senator, I think it is very counterproductive to have this advertising which goes on. I don't know of any senator who's been moved by having his name mentioned -- I know a lot have been irritated, but I don't know one senator who's been moved by that." **Senator Arlen Specter**, R-PA, news conference, 4/12/05

"We need to lower the rhetoric. For the life of me, I can't understand how we benefit moving America forward and we have the other side of the aisle talking about shutting down government." **Senator Bill Frist**, R-TN, press availability, 4/12/05